

## Party Time!!

Our traditional Holiday Celebration and Service Awards luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday December 10th, 2003. Please make a note on your calendar, in your PDA or place a post-it on your computer for this important event. Lunch will be served at noon followed by many cool and exciting activities, including an auction and our traditional service awards.

The location will be at the New Salt Lake City Library downtown.

Also don't forget to start getting you auction items ready. We will have a silent auction Monday and Tuesday before the live auction at our party on Wednesday. WE ARE SO EXCITED....so get this day on your calendar!!



### EMPLOYEE NEWS

**Cody Huft** is our new **Environmental Health Scientist/Dairy Compliance Officer** in Regulatory Services. He was previously employed as an agent at AFLAC Insurance Company.

**Beverly Wareham** has joined Animal Industry as a **Microbiologist**. She comes to the department from Salt Lake City where she was a Chemist. **Howard Walters** is Administrative Services' new **Programmer Analyst**. He was previously employed as a Planning Manager at Verizon.

### MARKETING DIRECTOR, RANDY PARKER, TAKES UTAH FARM BUREAU POSITION

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's Marketing and Conservation Division Director, Randy Parker, has accepted a position with the Utah Farm Bureau Federation as their Chief Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer.

Parker was appointed director of the division in 1991 by Commissioner Cary G. Peterson and oversaw the division's marketing and conservation programs.

"I have enjoyed my time at the department of agriculture and food," said Parker.

"Working to help Commissioner Peterson fulfill his commitment to Utah farmers and ranchers has been the most rewarding endeavor in my professional career, he added. "I look forward to the new challenges ahead working with Utah's farmers and ranchers."

Parker is credited with developing several innovative and successful programs such as:

- The development of an international marketing program that opened new sales opportunities to Utah agricultural producers. One example is the 1995 introduction of Logan, Utah's Gossner Food's shelf-stable milk into Hong Kong. This is the only U.S. fluid milk allowed into Hong Kong.
- Following the 1992 creation of the Utah Horse Racing Commission, Parker helped develop the Utah non-paramutual horse racing rules that add value to Utah horses that do not race in paramutual races.
- Parker also was the chair of the Utah AFO/CAFO (animal feed operation/confined animal feed operation) clean water committee that developed a nationally recognized program to improve the quality of Utah rivers and streams.

"Randy's contribution to the department has been remarkable," said Commissioner Peterson.

"He has helped us make advancements in protecting the environment as well as help local businesses expand their markets around the world. I wish him well in his new endeavor," added the commissioner.

Parker will remain with the department through October. Parker was raised on a Pleasant Grove farm and has an BS degree in agri-business, and an MS degree in agriculture economics from Utah State University.

# AG.

NOVEMBER 2003

# News

# 2003



Utah Governor  
Utah Commissioner of  
Agriculture and Food  
AG. News Editor

Michael O. Leavitt  
Cary G. Peterson

Larry Lewis

## CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM UNDERWAY \$6 MILLION IN PAYMENTS HEADED TO UTAH PRODUCERS

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 1, 2003 Farm Service Agency State Executive Director Boyd Critchfield announced today that Utah FSA will begin issuing more than \$6 million for annual Conservation Reserve Program payments to the state's producers. Nationwide, the agency will pay \$1.6 billion.

"Conservation Reserve Program payments are an important conservation tool for today's farmers," said Critchfield. "We're proud of the help we can provide in assisting Utah's agricultural producers with their stewardship of soil, water and air."

In Utah, producers have enrolled 198,925 acres on 615 farms. Nationally, there are 619,493 contracts on 373,033 farms. The number of contracts is higher than the number of farms because producers may have multiple contracts on a single farm. These are annual rental payments earned for fiscal year 2003.

The announcement does not include payments for 2 million acres enrolled under the most recent CRP general sign-up 26, which was held from May 5 to June 13, 2003. Rental payments under this newly enrolled acreage will be issued in October 2004.

CRP is the nation's premier program for protecting fragile natural resources and enhancing the environment. Under CRP, producers voluntarily retire environmentally sensitive cropland for 10 to 15 years. Land to be enrolled must either be highly erodible, contribute to a serious water quality problem, provide important wildlife habitat or provide substantial environmental benefits if devoted to certain specific conservation uses.

Other CRP payments, including reimbursement of 50 percent of expenses for establishing cover and incentive payments for enrolling eligible conservation practices, are made throughout the year.

For more information on CRP, producers should contact their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office or visit FSA's Web site at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

## UDAF Supports Efforts To Increase Mailbox Payments To Utah Dairy Farmers

Commissioner Cary G. Peterson testified before the Utah Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment Interim Committee on efforts by Utah dairy farmers to increase the profit they make from the sale of their milk.

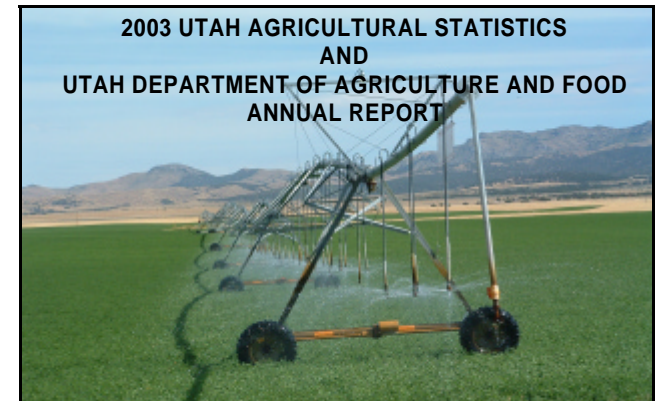
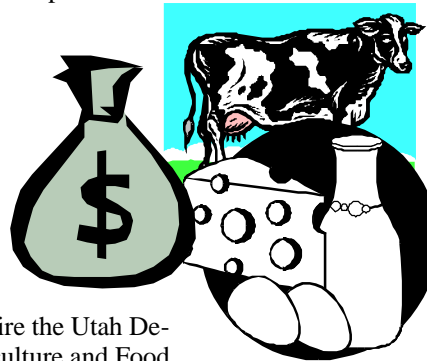
Under the current structure of dairy payments, called the Federal Milk Marketing Order, Utah farmers receive some of the lowest payments in the country.

Utah farmers receive \$9.55 per 100 pounds of raw milk, compared with \$13.31 in Florida, \$11.07 in the northeast, \$10.28 in the northwest, \$10.53 in the cornbelt, 9.97 in Idaho. The only state receiving less than Utah is New Mexico at \$9.52 per 100 lbs. of milk.

Utah dairy farmers are considering pulling out of the current Federal Milk Marketing Order and creating their own order in Utah. Such a move would require the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food to create a program to help coordinate the Utah Milk Marketing Order. The impact of such a move is being studied by the department.

Utah farmers receive less money for their milk because the current Federal Milk Marketing Order combines Utah's raw milk with milk from Idaho, which is considered less valuable due to its use in less expensive cheese making operations.

Commissioner Peterson told the committee that Utah milk was combined with Idaho milk by the Clinton Administration without regard for the economic consequences. He added that the move was similar to the creation of the Grand-Staircase Escalante National Monument which occurred with little or no consideration for its impact on Utah.



The 2003 UDAF Annual Report and the USDA Agricultural Statistics are now available on the web, in CD ROM format and in hard copy. Contact Larry Lewis at (801) 538-7104 ([larrylewis@utah.gov](mailto:larrylewis@utah.gov)) for a copy. Or check out the following Internet addresses: [http://www.ag.state.ut.us/annual\\_rpt02.pdf/](http://www.ag.state.ut.us/annual_rpt02.pdf/) <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ut/2003%20Annual%20Bulletin.htm/>

### 2003 Commercial/Non-Commercial/Private Pesticide Recertification Workshops

Nov-10 9:00am - 4:00pm Davis County Fairgrounds 151 S 1100 W, Farmington  
Nov-17 9:00am - 4:00pm State Fairpark Promontory Hall, 155 N 1000 W Salt Lake City  
Nov-20 9:00am - 4:00pm Utah County Administration Bldg West Entrance, room L700-L900 100 East Center Provo  
Dec-3 9:00am - 4:00pm Multipurpose Room U.S.U. Branch Campus 987 E. Lagoon St. Roosevelt  
Dec-4 9:00am - 4:00pm Carbon County Fairgrounds 393 S Fairgrounds Rd, Price  
Dec-9 9:00am - 4:00pm Utah County Administration Bldg West Entrance, room L700-L900, 100 East Center Provo  
Dec-10 9:00am - 4:00pm Millard Co. Fairgrounds, 157 S. Manzanita Ave. Delta  
Dec-11 9:00am - 4:00pm Dixie Center, Entrada Room, 1835 S Convention Center Dr., St. George  
Dec-16 9:00am - 4:00pm Utah State Fairpark, Promontory Hall, 155 N 1000 W. Salt Lake City  
Dec-18 6:00pm - 9:00pm \*\*Brigham City Emergency Services Department 442 W Forest, Brigham City  
Dec-19 9:00am - 4:00pm Bridgerland Applied Technology College, Southwest Conference Rooms, 1301 N 600 W., Logan  
\*\* Private workshop only